General Assembly

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Agenda item 114 (*l*)

Resolution adopted by the General Assembly

[*without reference to a Main Committee (A/63/L.26 and Add.1)*]

63/24. Cooperation between the United Nations and the Inter-Parliamentary Union

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General of 8 August 2008[1] which attests to the broad and substantive cooperation between the United Nations and the Inter-Parliamentary Union over the past two years,

Taking note of the resolutions adopted by the Inter-Parliamentary Union and circulated in the General Assembly and the many activities undertaken by the organization in support of the United Nations,

Welcoming the annual parliamentary hearings at the United Nations as joint United Nations-Inter-Parliamentary Union events during the sessions of the General Assembly, as well as other specialized parliamentary meetings organized by the Inter-Parliamentary Union in cooperation with the United Nations in the context of major United Nations conferences and events,

Taking into consideration the Cooperation Agreement between the United Nations and the Inter-Parliamentary Union of 1996,[2] which laid the foundation for cooperation between the two organizations,

Recalling the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[3] as well as the 2005 World Summit Outcome,[4] in which Heads of State and Government resolved to strengthen further cooperation between the United Nations and national parliaments through their world organization, the Inter-Parliamentary Union, in all fields of the work of the United Nations, including the effective implementation of United Nations reform,

Recalling also its resolution 57/32 of 19 November 2002, in which the Inter-Parliamentary Union was invited to participate in the work of the General

[1] See A/63/228-S/2008/531 and Corr.1, sect. III.

[2] A/51/402, annex.

[3] See resolution 55/2.

[4] See resolution 60/1.

Assembly in the capacity of observer, as well as resolutions 57/47 of 21 November 2002, 59/19 of 8 November 2004 and 61/6 of 20 October 2006,

Welcoming the close cooperation between the Inter-Parliamentary Union and the Peacebuilding Commission in fostering political dialogue and building national capacities for good governance,

Welcoming also the contribution of the Inter-Parliamentary Union in shaping the agenda and work of the new Development Cooperation Forum held by the Economic and Social Council,

Recognizing the importance of the provision of continued parliamentary support to the work of the Human Rights Council,

1. *Welcomes* the efforts made by the Inter-Parliamentary Union to provide for a greater parliamentary contribution and enhanced support to the United Nations;

2. *Encourages* the United Nations and the Inter-Parliamentary Union to continue to cooperate closely in various fields, in particular peace and security, economic and social development, international law, human rights, and democracy and gender issues, bearing in mind the significant benefits of cooperation between the two organizations, to which the report of the Secretary-General attests;[1]

3. *Encourages* the Inter-Parliamentary Union to strengthen further its contribution to the work of the General Assembly, including its revitalization, and in relation to the process of United Nations reform and system-wide coherence;

4. *Invites* the Peacebuilding Commission to continue to work closely with the Inter-Parliamentary Union in engaging national parliaments in the countries under consideration by the Commission in efforts to promote democratic governance, national dialogue and reconciliation;

5. *Encourages* the Inter-Parliamentary Union to continue to work closely with the Development Cooperation Forum and bring a robust parliamentary contribution to the Forum process and the broader development cooperation agenda;

6. *Also encourages* the Inter-Parliamentary Union to strengthen its contribution to the Human Rights Council, particularly as it relates to the universal periodic review of the fulfilment of human rights obligations and commitments by Member States;

7. *Welcomes* the growing practice of including legislators as members of national delegations to major United Nations meetings and events, as appropriate, and invites Member States to continue this practice in a more regular and systematic manner;

8. *Calls for* the further development of the annual parliamentary hearings at the United Nations as a joint United Nations-Inter-Parliamentary Union event and for the circulation of the hearings summary report as a document of the General Assembly;

9. *Welcomes* the proposal for a regular annual exchange between the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination and the senior leadership of the Inter-Parliamentary Union, with a view to building greater coherence in the work of the two organizations and maximizing parliamentary support for the United Nations;

10. *Decides*, in recognition of the unique role of national parliaments in support of the work of the United Nations, to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-fifth session an item entitled "Cooperation between the United Nations, national parliaments and the Inter-Parliamentary Union".

53rd plenary meeting
18 November 2008